

**Torres Strait Island**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# MINUTES

## STRATEGIC ADVISORY REFERENCE GROUP

Date: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022

Time: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Venue: Video Conference

**PRESENT:**

Cr Phillemon Mosby, Mayor – Poruma  
Cr Getano Lui – Deputy Mayor - Iama  
Cr Keith Fell – Mabuiag  
Cr Rocky Stephen – Ugar  
Cr Hilda Mosby – Masig

**STAFF:**

Ms Hollie Faithfull, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Mr David Baldwin, Executive Director, Engineering Services  
Mr Dawson Sailor, Acting Executive Director Building and Community Services  
Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director Corporate Services  
Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director Financial Services  
Mr Peter Krebs, Manager Legal Services  
Mr Jacob Matysek – Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
Ms May Mosby – Secretariat Officer

**APOLOGIES:**

Cr Aven Noah – Mer  
Mrs Ursula Nai – Senior Executive Assistant to the CEO

1. **Welcome (Chair)**

Mayor Phillemon Mosby completed a roll call and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mayor Mosby invited Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui to open the meeting in prayer.

Mayor Mosby asked Deputy Mayor Cr Getano Lui to take over as chair due to sorry business in community of Poruma. Deputy Mayor accepted the role of Chair of the SARG Meeting.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui gave condolences on behalf of the Committee to the families in sorry business.

1:15pm – Mayor Mosby left the meeting.

2. **Opening Prayer**

Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui opened the meeting in prayer at 1:16pm.

3. **Apology**

- Cr Aven Noah – Division 15 – Mer

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Rocky Stephen; Second: Cr Keith Fell*

**That the Strategic Advisory Reference Group Committee accepts the apology of Cr Aven Noah for his absence at this meeting.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

Cr Rocky Stephen advised the Committee that Cr Hilda Mosby will be dialling in at 1:30pm.

4. **Conflict of Interest (COI) / Declarable / Prescribed**

No declarations made. Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui encouraged Councillors to make a declaration at any time.

5. **Noting of Ratified Minutes - SARG Meeting**

- 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – VC – to be ratified at February 2022 OM

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Keith Fell; Second: Cr Rocky Stephen*

**That the Minutes for the SARG meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be adopted as a true and correct account of the meeting.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**6. Strategic Action Items**

Ms Hollie Faithfull, Acting Chief Executive Officer spoke to this agenda topic and updated the Committee on the outstanding action item.

**ACTION:** Executive Director, Corporate Services to present the Alcohol and Drug Management in the Workplace policy which was left laying on the table at the January SARG meeting to the March SARG meeting.

**7. Acting Chief Executive Officer**

**1. Council Business Impacts – COVID Response**

Ms Hollie Faithfull, Acting Chief Executive Officer spoke to this late report.

Ms Hollie Faithfull discussed the impacts COVID-19 is having on the operations of Council and duty of care to manage the well being of staff in Divisions and Cairns office.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui asked whether Council could be provided with a snapshot of the COVID situation in the Divisional Offices and Cairns Office and possibly provide monthly feedback to Council.

Ms Hollie Faithfull advised that she will work with Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director, Corporate Services to come up with a standardised document to release.

**ACTION:** Acting Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, Corporate Services to provide Councillors monthly feedback to council in relation COVID-19 impacts on staffing in the Divisional Officers and Cairns Office.

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Rocky Stephen; Second: Cr Keith Fell*

**That the Strategic Advisory Reference Group (SARG) notes the information contained in this report.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui acknowledged Ms Hollie Faithfull and thanked her for taking over the role of Acting Chief Executive Officer.

1:32pm – Cr Hilda Mosby joined the meeting.

**8. Executive Director Corporate Services**

**1. RAP Status Report**

Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director, Corporate Services spoke to the report and provided an update on the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Rocky Stephen; Second: Cr Hilda Mosby*

**That the Strategic Advisory Reference Group (SARG) notes the update regarding the TSIRC Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**2. Satellite Network Upgrade – Verbal**

Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director, Corporate Services provided a verbal update on this agenda topic. This matter was raised and discussed in the Economic Growth Committee Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

This topic was also discussed during the November workshop 2021 and Council was advised that there needs to be a budget allocated to cover costs to changes to our Telstra services.

Telstra advised that copper services will be discontinued in the Torres Strait region in August 2022. Telephone services within some divisional officers and other stakeholders will cease to operate. Ms Megan Barrett advised that conversations are still continuing with Telstra and Minister Enoch.

Cr Rocky Stephen advised SARG members that this matter has the full support of the Economic Growth Committee, and that the Committee will monitor this agenda topic closely.

**ACTION:** Executive Director, Corporate Services to provide an update on the Satellite Network to the next SARG meeting and provide a full report to the next Economic Growth Committee meeting.

**9. Acting Executive Director, Building & Community Services**

Mr Dawson Sailor, Acting Executive Director, Building and Community Services provided a verbal update on the following topics:

1. **Master Planning Project Status** – Verbal
2. **Regional Housing Plan** – Verbal
3. **Housing Building Authority Status** – Verbal

**10. Acting Executive Director, Financial Services**

Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services provided a verbal update on the following topics:

1. **Indigenous Procurement Policy**  
This policy was presented at the Economic Growth meeting last week.

2. **Councillor Remuneration** – Verbal

In depth discussions were held on the timings of Councillors wage's and sitting fees. Concerns were raised from Councillors regarding issues with timings of payments. Councillors have requested consistency on the timing of payments so that wages and sitting fees are paid at the same time and on time before close of business.

**2:49pm - 3:00pm – Afternoon Tea**

**11. SARG COMMITTEE MOVED INTO CLOSED BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Keith Fell; Second: Cr Hilda Mosby*

That in accordance with section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld) it is resolved for the meeting to go into closed session to discuss matters of the following nature:

- (f) matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or group of individuals;
- (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

- EDES – TSIRC Fuel Improvement Program Status Update Report – **late**
- EDES - Waste Metal Project – Contractual Matter – verbal update
- EDBCS – BSU Update – **late**
- EDCS – Torres Strait Flag – verbal update

**COMMITTEE MOVED OUT OF CLOSED BUSINESS AND RESUME IN OPEN BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Hilda Mosby; Second: Cr Keith Fell*

That the Strategic Advisory Reference Group Committee move out of closed business and resume in open business.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**11.3 BSU | Monthly Update – **Late****

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Keith Fell; Second: Cr Hilda Mosby*

**SARG resolves to note the information on this report and submission to Council Ordinary Meeting.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**11.1 ENGINEERING | TSIRC Fuel Improvement Program Status Update Report – Late**

**RESOLUTION:**

*Moved: Cr Keith Fell; Second: Cr Rocky Stephen*

**That the Strategic Advisory Reference Group (SARG) notes the report.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**12. General/ Other Business (on notice)**

**Seaswift Barge:**

Cr Rocky Stephen raised the concern of Seaswift delivery drivers walking around not wearing a face mask while unloading at Ugar. Safety measures are not complied with or maintained, and Cr Rocky Stephen requested these concerns should be reported to Seaswift management.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Getano Lui also raised concerns with Contractors coming into community without submitting a Visitor's Request form or contacting the Divisional Manager beforehand. Deputy Mayor also raised a question of COVID assistance payment and whether outer island communities are eligible to access financial assistance. Cr Getano Lui was advised there is certain criteria that the person must meet and if they meet the criteria, they will be eligible to apply.

**13. Next meeting date – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 | 1pm – 4pm**

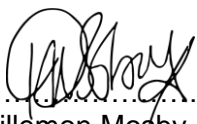
SARG members note the date for the next meeting.

**14. Closing Remarks and Prayer**

Cr Keith Fell closed the meeting in prayer.

**MEETING CLOSED – 4:41PM**

  
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Ms Hollie Faithfull  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022

  
.....  
Cr Phillemon Mosby  
Mayor  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022